

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and indicating that claims 5-7, 11, and 12 contain allowable subject matter.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 13, and 15 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 10, 13, and 15.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 5. Claim 7 has been amended so as to rewrite the claim in independent form. Claim 10 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 11. No new matter has been included by way of these amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 8-10, and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,495,067 issued to Drake ("067") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,372,404 issued to Drake ("404"). Claims 13-15 have been cancelled by way of this reply. Further claims 1 and 10 have amended to include allowable subject matter from claims 5 and 11, respectively. Dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 05516/142002).

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Respectfully submitted,

By


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